

# Helping Older Children Read

- ✂ Reading aloud is still a good thing with older children and families.
- ✂ Books can teach your children about your family's culture, values, celebrations, and even challenges. Libraries offer children's and young adult books about all kinds of people, times, and experiences.
- ✂ There are now picture books for all ages, some with wonderful art in the illustrations and some that look like comic books or have great graphics.
- ✂ Reading encourages your children's interests; it helps them learn through books, magazines, or even Web sites.
- ✂ Sometimes children will insist on reading only one kind of book. Time spent reading anything builds skill for later reading interests.
- ✂ Libraries and other organizations may have programs such as book clubs, read-ins, or summer reading events that encourage reading for children and young adults.
- ✂ Too much TV seems to interfere with reading and learning skills.
- ✂ Read for information, for pleasure, for entertainment, for help, for education, for leisure — but read, read, and keep on reading!

Going to the library is a low-cost way to help your children's reading ability. It can also make your children's lives more interesting. Many libraries will issue library cards to children. Even if you don't want to borrow books, the library is an interesting place. As your children change and grow, you can use the library to look at and try out new kinds of books, magazines, and even computer programs. Many libraries also offer activities, programs, and events that will help make reading fun for your children. If reading is fun, children will read more, and if they read more, they will become better readers.

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SECRETARY OF STATE  
**MISSOURI STATE LIBRARY**  
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800-325-0131 in Missouri

Robin Carnahan  
Secretary of State

Sara Parker  
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